

Notes from ATMC Aftermarket Roundtable Discussion Tuesday, April 5, 2016

- Bobby opened meeting and welcomed everyone. All seats (45) were filled by the end of the meeting.
- Discussion on industry wide PM checklist just like a pilot uses, It is still a valid concern and an opportunity to work with group to develop through ATMC
- It was noted that lack of technical updates and knowledge is creating increased failures, warranties and labor claims in the industry.
- It was noted that technicians are still struggling with older repair practices and may be creating problems by not updating practices
- Industry needs to nurture technicians to help them understand some of the latest changes
- Trend - Manufacture are changing their warranty policies to place some of the burden of repair back on the technician because of lack of knowledge of latest practices
- It was noted that we are not just losing techs but the vast knowledge in the industry is soon to retire as well.
- Using ATMC as the pinnacle, is it possible to set an example of what training should look like for the tech? How many hours per year should the tech take in training to maintain their skills/knowledge? How can we work as a group to make this happen?
- Who pays for Training time for technicians? Should this be a standard for the industry?
- The automotive industry has an image problems so a couple of suggestions were to move from an automotive service application to an automotive science to make it more emotionally enticing for those just beginning their career. In addition not all students are cut out to become a tech so encourage them to look at the total aftermarket to find their best fit.
- Question from group: Does automotive aftermarket need to rebrand itself. AutoCare Assn has already done that to broaden the perspective on the aftermarket. Its more than the tech repairing cars.
- ASE tech certification is still voluntary where many other trades require a certification. What can we do as an industry to require certification of the automotive tech? All agreed ASE certification should be the standard for the industry!
- Educators and counselors should especially be aware of job opportunities along with change to automotive science. Reach out to ASTE and ask them to be a part of this conversation.
- Recommendation that Dave develop a common logo that can be shared by all.
- This conversation has to begin with parents as we let them know what jobs are available in our industry. Message should come from ATMC and ASE should also be included to make the message cohesive.
- Statement made that there was not a single source that someone can visit that discusses job opportunities in the automotive industries. It was noted that the AutoCare Assn has just such a website that at some point will become a job board for the industry.
<http://www.autocarecareers.org/careers>

- It was also noted that ASE has a Student Career app that allows the student to create a video noting their career path and desires in job opportunities. If ASE has a document on job paths in the industry for students, work with ASE to promote that.
- Is it possible to create short snippets videos of members discussing the problem in the industry creating awareness?
- Greg Settles shared that he is part of a committee that created a foundation called Technician Strategic Alliance that highlights the tech along with industry problems. This foundation is currently funded by 30 members from the industry. Their long term plan is to support scholarships for the industry. (See Attached).
- It was requested that in 2017 we have an after roundtable discussion opportunity and ask the OE's to be a part of it.

Action Items

- Promote and share the ATMC mission statement to the industry. Actively promote ATMC along with We Support ASE.
- IATN is a big part of the technicians world, invite Scott Brown of IATN in on the conversation
- Encourage ASTE to be a part of this conversation.
- Ask members to supply any non profit contact that they know of or are on the committee of so ATMC can embrace them all as we attempt to pull in all these organizations under one umbrella.
- Work with members to determine what is an acceptable amount of training per year to maintain the technician's automotive certification. (ASE?) Can we create standards based on training needs?
- Develop an automotive (pilot) PM check sheet that can be used across the industry.
- Create simple bullet points that ATMC members can talk to when addressing the industry/school on why an automotive science career. List locations of resources for future reference for both aftermarket and OE
- Send the AutoCare Career link to members <http://www.autocarecareers.org/careers>
- Share Greg Settles information on their Foundation to ATMC members
- Create a ATMC committee that can accumulate non profits and contacts so we can develop a meeting date to discuss changes in the industry as mentions in this doc.
- 2017 Ask OE to participate in an aftermarket roundtable discussion.